

K A M T S C H A T K A, &c. 185

442 a wooden handle. Of such chrystals were made likewise their
 294 arrows, spears, and lancets, with which they continue still to
 — let blood. Their sewing needles they made of the bones of fables,
 with which they not only sewed their cloaths together, but made
 also very curious embroidery.

177 In order to kindle fire they have a board of dry wood with
 372 round holes in the sides of it, and a small round stick; this they
 rub in a hole 'till it takes fire, and instead of tinder they use
 dry grafs beat soft. These instruments are held in such esteem
 by the *Kamtscbadales* that they are never without them, and they
 value them more than our steels and flints: but they are exces-
 442 sively fond of other iron instruments, such as hatchets, knives,
 177 or needles; nay, at the first arrival of the *Russians* a piece of
 325 broken iron was looked upon as a great present, and even yet
 they receive it with thankfulness, knowing how to make use of
 the least fragment either to point their arrows or make darts,
 which they do by hammering it out cold between two
 stones. All the savage inhabitants of these parts are par-
 ticularly fond of iron, and know how to manage it very
 439 curiously. As some of them delight in war, the *Russian*
 325 merchants are forbid to sell them any warlike instruments; but
 445 they are ingenious enough to make spears and arrows out of the
 R. iron pots and kettles which they buy; and they are so dextrous
 177 when the eye of a needle breaks as to make a new eye, which
 441 they will repeat until nothing remains but the point. Even at the
 time when I was there it was only the better sort and those that
 lived near to the *Russians* that made use of iron or copper vessels,
 the rest still preferring their wooden dishes.

325 It is said, that the *Kamtscbadales* knew the use of iron even
 439 before the arrival of the *Russians*; that they received it from the
 177 *Japanese*, who came to the *Kurilski* islands, and once to the
 mouth of the river *Kamtscbatka*; and that the name which the
Kamtscbadales give the *Japanese* of *Sbifman* comes from *sbifb*,

K A M T S C H A T K A, &c. 189

use for cloaths, such as deer-skins, seals, dogs, and beavers, they ²⁸¹ prepare one way: in the first place, wetting and spreading it out, they scrape off all the pieces of fat or veins that remained after flensing it, with stones fixed in pieces of wood; then rubbing it over with fresh or sour caviar, they roll it up and tread it with their feet 'till the hide begins to stink; they again scrape and clean it, and continue this 'till the skin is soft and clean. Such skins as they want to prepare without the hair they use at first in the same manner as above; then hang them in the smoke for a week, and afterwards soak them in warm water to make the hair fall off; at last rubbing them with caviar, by frequent treading and scraping them with stones, they make them clean and soft.

They dye the deer and dog skins, which they use for cloathing, ²⁸¹ with alder bark cut and rubbed very small; but the seal-skins, ³⁸⁶ which they use either for cloathing, shoes, or straps for binding their sledges, they dye in a particular manner: having first cleaned off the hair they make a bag of the skin, and turning the hair side outward they pour into it a strong decoction of alder bark; after it has lain thus sometime, they hang it upon a tree, and beat it with a stick. This operation they repeat 'till the colour is gone quite through the skin; then they rip it open, and stretching it out, dry it in the air; at last they rub it 'till it becomes soft and fit for use. Such skins are not unlike dressed goat-skins: however, *Steller* says that the *Lamushki* have yet a better way of preparing them. These skins they call *mandari*, and they are worth three shillings a-piece. The hair of the seals, with which they ornament their cloaths and shoes, is dyed with the juice of the red wortleberry boiled with alder bark, alum, and lac lunæ; which makes a very bright colour. They used to sew their cloaths and shoes with needles made of bone, and instead of thread they made use of the fibres of the deer, which they split to the size or ²⁹⁴ _{4/2} thickness required. ²⁸³

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